Message Text

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62.

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 NIC-01 SAJ-01 NSCE-00 DRC-01 /134 W ------- 106152

R 260352Z JAN 74
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1295
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USMISSION NATO
CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL PEKING 0157

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR CH UR

SUBJ: PRC PROTESTS SOVIET "KIDNAPPING"

REF: HONG KONG 881

1. JANUARY 26 "PEOPLE'S DAILY CARRIES AS LEAD ITEM PRC PROTEST OF JANUARY 25 DELIVERED BY VICE FONMIN YU CHAN TO SOVIET AMBASSADOR TOLSTIKOV. PROTEST NOTE IS ANOTHER ERIC AMBLER STYLE NARRATION OF CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING SOVIET DETENTION AND SUBSEQUENT EXPULSION OF PRC ATTACHE KUAN HENG-KUANG IN WHICH RUSSIANS ARE ACCUSED OF "KIDNAPPING" KUAN USING "BARBAROUS" AND "FASCIST" METHODS. UNLIKE EARLIER NCNA ANNOUNCEMENT OF KUAN'S EXPULSION (REFTEL), PROTEST NOTE SPECIFICALLY STATES, THAT SOVIET ACTION WAS IN RETALIATION FOR PRC EXPULSION OF FIVE SOVIETS.

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2. COMMENT: PRC APPARENTLY INTENDS TO KEEP POT BOILING OR,

AT MINIMUM, HAVE THE LAST WORD IN THIS EXCHANGE WITH SOVIETS. GENERAL FEELING AMONG DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY HERE IS THAT ORIGINAL INCIDENT INVOLVING FIVE SOVIET DIPLOMATS WAS AN ENTRAPMENT EXERCISE ENGINEERED BY CHINESE. IF THIS IS SO (AND WE BELIEVE IT IS), IT INDICATES CALCULATED CHINESE EFFORT TO EXACERBATE SINO-SOVIET FRICTIONS AND EMPHASIZE SOVIET THREAT FOR LOCAL POPULACE. WE SUSPECT WE HAVE NOT HEARD THE LAST OF THIS EXCHANGE. JENKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, KIDNAPPING, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 26 JAN 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PEKING00157

Document Number: 1974PEKING00157 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: PEKING

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740113/aaaaambg.tel Line Count: 70 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a

Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: HONG KONG 881 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 05 JUN 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <27 DEC 2002 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PRC PROTESTS SOVIET "KIDNAPPING" TAGS: PFOR, CH, UR, (KUAN HENG-KUANG)

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005